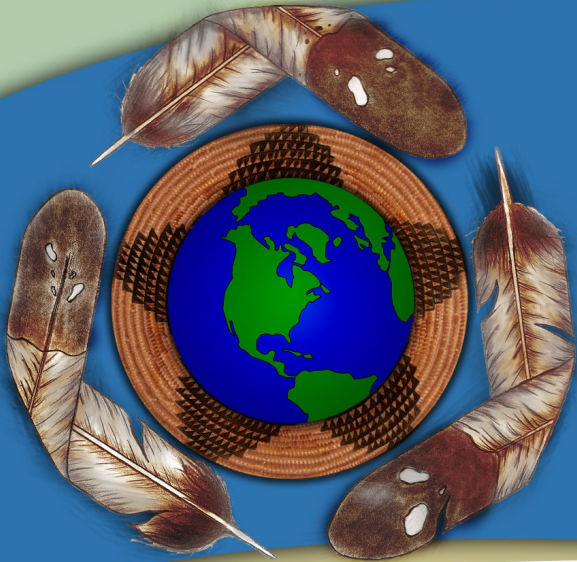


# Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians

Vol.5 | Winter | 2011

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## *Cham Tema*

“Our Land”

## Soboba Tribal Environmental Department

The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians' Tribal Environmental Department is committed to protecting, restoring, and enhancing natural resources on the Soboba Reservation for all Tribal Members: past, present, and future.



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# Community Cleanup Day

The Soboba Environmental Department hosted a community cleanup day on July 24, 2010. Roll off bins for bulk items were brought in and arrangements were made to have electronic waste recycled and household hazardous waste disposed of properly. It was a great event with several people showing up throughout the day to drop off items. Everyone who came got a personal ice chest as a thank you gift. The Environmental Department was very happy to see so many people take the opportunity to not only clean up their waste, but also make sure it got handled in a way that was good for the Earth. Orange E-waste hauled away the electronics such as the refrigerators, TVs, and microwaves that were received. Double Barrel Environmental Services handled the household hazardous waste. Items like paint, used oil, and car batteries were sorted and labeled before being taken to an appropriate recycler or disposal facility. Public Works and TANF were a large help on the day of the event. The Environmental Department hopes to be able to hold more events like this to provide solutions to waste issues. Be sure to watch for flyers or posters announcing similar events in the future.



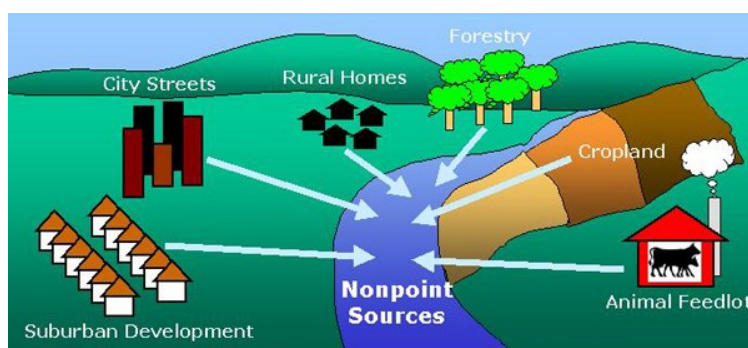
# What is Nonpoint Source Pollution?

Nonpoint source pollution is polluted runoff that comes from many different sources rather than one specific source like a sewage treatment plant. As runoff from rain or other water sources moves across the ground, it picks up pollutants and carries them into storm drains, streams, lakes, and rivers. Nonpoint source pollution can come from mining, agriculture, forestry, urban areas, eroding stream banks, household chemicals that aren't properly disposed

of, fertilizers, pesticides, pet waste, and many other sources. It includes toxic contaminants like heavy metals, sediment, excess nutrients, and litter. Nonpoint sources account for 60% of water pollution. It is important to learn what

contributes to this type of water pollution so that everyone can cooperate to prevent it.

To get started learning more, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/>



## Getting Rid of Chemicals the Right Way

### **How to dispose of household chemicals and waste without adding to nonpoint source pollution**

Leftover household products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or reactive ingredients are considered to be hazardous. Paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides that contain potentially hazardous ingredients require special care when you dispose of them. Pouring chemicals down the drain could disrupt your septic system or contaminate treatment plant sludge. There are 3 permanent household hazardous waste facilities in Riverside County. The locations and times are:

- 1100 Vella Rd, Palm Springs Saturdays 7 am to noon.

- 521 N. Longstaff St., Lake Elsinore 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 9 am to 2 pm.
- 1780 Agua Mansa Rd, Riverside Saturdays 9 am to 2 pm.

Check with Riverside County Waste Management for upcoming special collection events and more information:  
[http://www.rivcowm.org/hhw\\_schedule.htm](http://www.rivcowm.org/hhw_schedule.htm)  
or call (800) 304-2226.

To reduce the amount of household hazardous waste you produce, buy chemicals only in the amount you expect to use and apply them only as directed. You can also select non-toxic or less-toxic alternatives to common household products.





If you have any questions on information in the newsletter or any other environmental concerns contact:

**Soboba Tribal Environmental Department**

**Erica Helms-Schenk**

**Environmental Director**

**(951) 654-5544 ext 4129**

**ehelms@soboba-nsn.gov**

**P.O. Box 487**

**San Jacinto, CA 92581**



# Do You Throw Your Batteries Away?

Not only is throwing used batteries away illegal, it is also harmful to the environment. Batteries contain heavy metals which can contaminate the environment when batteries are improperly disposed of. When burned certain metals might be released into the air or can concentrate in the ash produced by the combustion process. Batteries may produce the following potential problems or hazards:

- Pollute lakes and streams as the metals vaporize into the air when burned.
- Contribute to heavy metals that potentially may leach from solid waste landfills
- Contain strong corrosive acids that may cause burns or danger to eyes and skin.

prevent these hazards. The Environmental Department is collecting several batteries and portable electronics in "Big Green Boxes." We can recycle alkaline, lithium, nickel cadmium, nickel metal hydride, lithium ion and other household batteries. You may also utilize The Big Green Box for cellular telephones, pagers, wireless communication devices such as PDA's, MP3's, chargers, portable tools, laptops and any other devices that are designed to operate on battery power. Batteries can be dropped off at the Environmental Department office in the Administration building



Now there is a way for you to easily recycle your batteries and help

## Hot Springs Project with the TANF Youth

The Environmental Department partnered with the Soboba Tribal TANF L.E.A.D. Summer Youth Academy to do a clean up of the area around the hot springs. The project took place over three weeks during their summer

program. The kids and leaders removed trash, dug up invasive plant species and cleaned up the hot springs in an effort to make it a more inviting place. Despite it being a large area, taking place over several warm days, and requiring a hike to

get there due to transportation issues, the group worked hard and made a big improvement. The Environmental Department appreciates all of the effort that was put into the project and would like to do more projects of this type in the future.

